

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A truss for reinforcing a pole, the truss comprising:
 - an elongated body having a pair of opposite ends connected by a pair of longitudinal edges;
 - the body having an open cross-sectional configuration characterized by a pair of side flanges each extending from a respective one of the longitudinal edges in a direction diverging from the other side flange, and an intermediate section connecting the pair of side flanges.
2. (original) The truss according to claim 1, wherein the intermediate section of the cross-sectional configuration includes:
 - a pair of bridge portions associated one with each of the pair of side flanges, each bridge portion extending in a direction forming an obtuse angle with the direction of the associated flange; and
 - a pair of apex portions associated one with each of the pair of bridge portions, each apex portion extending in a direction forming an obtuse angle with the direction of the associated bridge portion, wherein the pair of apex portions converge toward one another.
3. (original) The truss according to claim 2, wherein the pair of apex portions are joined by a curved bend.
4. (original) The truss according to claim 2, wherein each of the pair of flanges is joined to its associated bridge portion by a curved bend.
5. (original) The truss according to claim 2, wherein each of the pair of bridge portions is joined to its apex portion by a curved bend.

6. (original) The truss according to claim 2, wherein fastener holes are provided through each of the pair of bridge portions.
7. (currently amended) The truss according to claim 2, wherein A truss for reinforcing a pole, the truss comprising:
an elongated body having a pair of opposite ends connected by a pair of longitudinal edges;
the body having an open cross-sectional configuration characterized by a pair of side flanges each extending from a respective one of the longitudinal edges in a direction diverging from the other side flange, and an intermediate section connecting the pair of side flanges, wherein the intermediate section of the cross-sectional configuration includes:
a pair of bridge portions associated one with each of the pair of side flanges, each bridge portion extending in a direction forming an obtuse angle with the direction of the associated flange; and
a pair of apex portions associated one with each of the pair of bridge portions, each apex portion extending in a direction forming an obtuse angle with the direction of the associated bridge portion, wherein the pair of apex portions converge toward one another and fastener holes are provided through each of the pair of apex portions.
8. (original) The truss according to claim 3, wherein fastener holes are provided through the curved bend joining the pair of apex portions.

9. (original) A truss for reinforcing a pole, the truss comprising:
 - an elongated body having a pair of opposite ends connected by a pair of longitudinal edges;
 - the body having an open cross-sectional configuration characterized by:
 - a pair of straight apex portions forming an excluded angle A1 with one another;
 - a pair of straight bridge portions each forming a first included angle A3 with an associated one of the pair of apex portions;
 - a pair of straight side flanges each forming a second included angle A2 with an associated one of the pair of bridge portions;
 - wherein the angles A1, A2, and A3 are chosen to satisfy the following relationship:
$$180 - A2 - A3 + \frac{1}{2} * A1 > 0$$
in which angles A1, A2, and A3 are expressed in degrees.
10. (original) The truss according to claim 9, wherein the cross-sectional configuration is further characterized by an axis of symmetry midway between the pair of edges, and the pair of apex portions are symmetrical about the axis of symmetry, the pair of bridge portions are symmetrical about the axis of symmetry, and the pair of side flanges are symmetrical about the axis of symmetry.

11. (currently amended) The truss according to claim 9 A truss for reinforcing a pole, the truss comprising:

an elongated body having a pair of opposite ends connected by a pair of longitudinal edges;

the body having an open cross-sectional configuration characterized by: a pair of straight apex portions forming an excluded angle A1 with one another;

a pair of straight bridge portions each forming a first included angle A3 with an associated one of the pair of apex portions;

a pair of straight side flanges each forming a second included angle A2 with an associated one of the pair of bridge portions;

wherein the angles A1, A2, and A3 are chosen to satisfy the following relationship:

$$180-A2 - A3 + \frac{1}{2}*A1 > 0$$

in which angles A1, A2, and A3 are expressed in degrees, and wherein the excluded angle A1, the first included angle A3, and the second included angle A2 are equal to one another.

12. (original) The truss according to claim 11, wherein the excluded angle A1, the first included angle A3, and the second included angle A2 are all equal to 100°.

13. (original) The truss according to claim 9, wherein the pair of apex portions are joined to one another by a curved bend, each of the pair of bridge portions is joined to an associated one of the pair of apex portions by a curved bend, and each of the pair of side flanges is joined to an associated one of the pair of bridge portions by a curved bend.

14. - 16. (canceled)